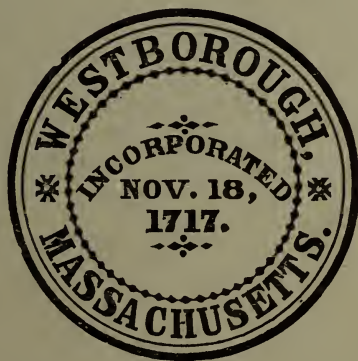


# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



FOR THE YEAR ENDING

December 31, 1940

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Chronotype Printing Company  
Westborough, Mass.  
1941



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# Report of the School Committee

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## ORGANIZATION

Charles A. Kimball, Chairman.....Term expires 1942  
 Mrs. Sara A. Mason, Secretary.....Term expires 1943  
 Harry E. Burroughs.....Term expires 1941

Regular meetings of the Committee are held the  
 second Monday of each month at 8 p. m.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

J. Harding Armstrong.....Superintendent  
 Office, High School. Tel. 2231  
 Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 3 to 5 p. m.  
 Residence, 14 Church St. Tel. 543  
 Dr. Walter F. Mahoney.....School Physician  
 Residence, 61 West Main St. Tel. 805  
 Helen L. Schuhmann, R. N.....School Nurse  
 Residence, 11 Ruggles St. Tel. 685  
 James H. Higgins.....Attendance Officer and Census Enumerator  
 Residence, 21 Beach St. Tel. 2233

## SCHOOL CALENDAR—1941

Winter term, Jan. 2-Feb. 21; Spring terms, March 3-April 18  
 and April 28-June 20; Fall term, Sept. 3-Dec. 19  
 School Holidays—Good Friday, Memorial Day, Columbus Day,  
 Armistice Day, Thanksgiving Day and the following Friday

## NO SCHOOL SIGNAL

This signal is 1-2-3 on the Westboro fire alarm, given three times. When sounded at 7.30 it means no morning or afternoon sessions for all schools; at 8 o'clock, no morning session for first six grades only; at 11.30, no afternoon session for all schools; at 11.45, no afternoon session for first six grades only.

## TO THE TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH:

The School Committee respectfully submits the following report for the year ending December 31, 1940.

The sum of \$1,249.27 was expended for repairs, the major part of which was for painting. The Committee began to carry out the plan suggested last year for the renovation of the interior of the high school by having all the rooms on the top floor painted, the ceilings whitened and the woodwork varnished. It will probably take three more years to complete the entire building. In addition the four rooms on the first floor of the Eli Whitney school were also thoroughly renovated. Miscellaneous repairs included the painting of some of the toilets and the refinishing of the desks in several rooms in the high school.

At the close of school in June the four boilers were inspected and given the usual thorough cleaning and such repairs as were necessary. An incinerator was constructed in the base of the chimney at the high school. This makes it possible for the janitor to dispose of paper and similar waste material without burning it on the top of the fire, which makes a dirty fire and results in loss of fuel.

The most important equipment purchased during the year was two of the latest types of electric stoves, which replaced the ones originally installed in the high school when it was built 14 years ago. This was done on an exchange basis at a cost of only \$175. A set of ten new curtains was purchased to replace some which were worn out by constant use in the rooms on the side of the building most exposed to the sun.

This coming year in addition to continuing the renovation of the interior of the high school, broken walks at the rear should be replaced. In our report of last year a statement was made regarding the plans developed for improving the Eli Whitney and Harvey grounds with W. P. A. assistance. We urge that this project be carried out just

as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made with the proper authorities.

In order to add to the high school program more subjects of a practical nature as suggested by the superintendent in his report it will be necessary to employ another teacher to take over the academic subjects now being taught by the commercial, home economics and manual training teachers. We think that at this time there is a real need for expanding the program in this way and the budget presented to the Finance Committee will include the cost of this additional teacher

Your attention is called to the accompanying reports of the superintendent and other school officials, which give some of the most important phases of the year's work.

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#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1940

Appropriation for 1940..... \$67,500 00

#### EXPENDITURES

Expenses of School Committee..... \$309 05

Supt. of Schools—Salary and other  
expenses..... 2,389 04

#### Salaries:

Supervisors .....	\$1,850 00	
Principals .....	2,270 00	
Teachers—High .....	17,020 08	
Teachers—Elementary .....	22,996 23	
	<hr/>	44,136 31

#### Textbooks:

High .....	\$253 40	
Elementary .....	588 58	
	<hr/>	841 97

#### Stationery and Supplies:

High .....	\$1,064 85	
Elementary .....	709 33	
	<hr/>	1,774 18

#### Janitors:

High .....	\$1,842 34	
Elementary .....	2,459 22	
	<hr/>	4,301 56

## Fuel:

High .....	\$778 38	
Elementary .....	1,444 87	
		<hr/> 2,223 25

## Miscellaneous Operating:

High .....	\$1,163 47	
Elementary .....	1,179 11	
		<hr/> 2,342 58

## Repairs:

High .....	\$679 54	
Elementary .....	569 73	
		<hr/> 1,249 27

## Library:

High .....	\$24 60	
Elementary .....	25 91	
		<hr/> 50 51

## Health:

High .....	\$6 78	
Elementary .....	1,077 49	
		<hr/> 1,084 27

## Transportation:

High .....	\$1,250 00	
Elementary .....	4,350 00	
		<hr/> 5,600 00

## Miscellaneous Expenses:

High .....	\$147 20	
Elementary .....	9 73	
		<hr/> 156 93

New Equipment.....	1,040 03	
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Total Expenditures.....	\$67,498 95
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Balance .....	\$1 05
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## CREDITS FOR 1940

From State—on account of teachers' salaries.....	\$7,450 00
Tuition—State wards—year ending July 1, 1940..	1,962 05
Tuition—Mass. Training School pupils.....	297 73
Rentals—High School.....	30 00
Manual Training Receipts.....	68 08
Miscellaneous—telephone, supply sales, etc.....	22 50
Tuition .....	66 45

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\$9,896 81



## TRADE SCHOOL ACCOUNT

Appropriation for 1940.....	\$1,000 00
Expended for Tuition.....	\$868 56
Balance, Dec. 31, 1940.....	131 44
State Reimbursement.....	\$782 36
Net Cost of Trade School Tuition.....	\$86 20

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES A. KIMBALL, Chairman.

SARA A. MASON, Secretary.

HARRY E. BURROUGHS.

School Committee.

## Report of Superintendent of Schools

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TO THE WESTBOROUGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

I submit for your consideration the following report of the activities of the schools for the year 1940 which I trust will also prove of interest to citizens of our town.

### OUR SCHOOLS AND THE NATIONAL CRISIS

Much has been written regarding the responsibility of the schools in the present national crisis but the determination of just what our small school system can do to help in a practical way is a difficult matter. The most pressing immediate need is to train workers for the war industries but while our high school gives more training in hand skills in our shop than do most small schools yet we are not equipped to give the special vocational training necessary for these workers. Even with federal aid the expense of the equipment necessary for such a program would be prohibitive for a school of our size. Therefore, our boys and men who wish this kind of training must secure it at the Worcester Trade School or in other centers being established in larger places for this specialized work.

In this emergency much emphasis is being laid on the attitudes and qualities of character shown by our people and that they are of vital importance is evidenced by the occurrences in European countries during the past few months. Our schools here have always laid stress on these factors as an essential part of the training of our boys and

girls through our character training program.

Recognizing that in this crisis there was need for special emphasis on the development of a better type of patriotism, at the first teachers' meeting in the fall this was presented as an objective on which all teachers should center their attention. Specific suggestions were made as to how this might be accomplished and everyone in the system is making a definite attempt to strengthen the civic loyalties of all the pupils. Three fundamental factors are being stressed, namely:—the appreciation of the opportunities which our country offers, the need of giving up personal desires for the good of the group, and the necessity for obedience to authority and to the laws under which we live.

#### TEACHING STAFF

This year has seen more changes in our teaching staff than at any other time, six teachers or one-fifth of the entire corps ending their services in June. Two were granted leaves of absence, Mr. Donald Homans, assistant principal at the high school, to study at Harvard and Miss Florence Walker, the junior high mathematics teacher, to teach in an American school near Peking, China. Mr. Clyde Riley has been assigned most of the duties of the assistant principal and Mr. Albert J. Doran, Jr., a graduate of Boston University, was elected to take over the classes taught by Mr. Homans. Mr. Ralph M. Clark, a Trinity College graduate with several years experience, was selected to take Miss Walker's place. Miss Elizabeth Kane who has taught the first grade at the Eli Whitney School for several years was transferred to the junior high school to teach geography, drawing and music in place of Miss Wright who resigned.

Miss Frances Conlin, the teacher of history in the junior high and Miss Ruth Gurnett, one of the third grade teachers, resigned to be married. Mr. Alton C. Bennett, a recent

Tufts College graduate, was chosen to succeed Miss Conlin and also to serve as assistant football and baseball coach. Miss Marjorie Knight, a graduate of Fitchburg Teachers College who had taught in New Hampshire was selected to succeed Miss Gurnett.

Miss Martha Manahan, a graduate of Lowell State Teachers' College, was appointed to fill the fifth grade vacancy caused by the transfer of Miss Kane. Late in the summer Miss Drury resigned to accept a position in Winchester and Miss Margaret Gleason, a graduate of our high school and of Framingham Teachers' College, was chosen for the position. Just before the Christmas vacation, Miss Winnifred Granger, the clothing and home economics teacher in the high school secured a better position in New Canaan, Conn. and in order that she might accept it at once Mrs. Louis Farnsworth has been employed as a substitute teacher.

All these new appointments were made only after a very careful consideration of the qualifications of many candidates and they are proving well qualified for the positions to which they have been assigned. It is indeed surprising how successfully the regular program of work has been carried on with these numerous changes in personnel.

### SCHOOL PROGRESS

It is difficult to measure the progress being made from year to year by a school system and often times more is gained by carefully following procedures already established than by making changes. During the past year no changes of special importance have been made and whatever advance has been accomplished has been due to more careful execution of plans already developed.

In the junior-senior high school a few changes have been made in the text books, the most important being the introduction in the junior high of a reader designed to develop

the fundamental reading skills so necessary for the high school pupil. The change in teachers made possible some minor adjustments in the program which have been advantageous.

The guidance program inaugurated a year ago has been continued successfully, some adjustments being made in the topics discussed to better fit the needs and interests of the various classes.

The formation of proper study habits is essential to successful high school work and the faculty has given special attention to this problem the past year. Home study is another important matter which has been given serious consideration for some time and plans have been discussed for changing the school program so as to have most of the study work done in school but no satisfactory solution has been developed.

During the past year the New England College Certificate Board renewed our certification privilege and the State Department of Education gave our school a Grade A rating. These make it possible for graduates whose marks are A or B for their entire high school course to enter the New England colleges and the state teachers' colleges without examinations.

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The work of the elementary grades has gone on successfully during the year with special attention given to improving the teaching of reading. After careful study of the latest books in this field, a series known as the Child Development Readers, published by Houghton Mifflin Co. was adopted and sets have been purchased for use in grades three, four, five and six. The material in these texts is so organized that definite reading skills can be developed in each grade and the work carried on progressively from year to year. The children have been grouped on the

basis of their reading ability and special instruction is given according to the needs of each group. This plan has resulted in a definite improvement of the reading ability of the children as shown by the reading tests given at the close of the year.

In this connection mention should be made of the unusually successful outside reading program being carried on with the fine cooperation of the librarians at the town library. Miss Ainsworth, the children's librarian, has been most helpful and many boys and girls in the upper elementary classes have won the state reading certificates for reading ten or twenty books. During the past year these awards have been given to fifty-five children.

The age for entrance to the first grade was again advanced a month so that a child had to be five years old on February 1st to be admitted. The plan of giving special tests to children whose birthdays came before April 1st was continued and several were admitted on the recommendation of the examiners.

The introduction of a series of science readers stimulated much interest in this subject and in the spring a weekly display of newly-found flowers was prepared by the children and exhibited in the library under the direction of Miss Cummings. In the fall a successful flower-arrangement contest was also held at the Eli Whitney School and during the winter much interest has been shown in classroom aquariums.

In all these grades much attention has been given to the teaching of safety and the safety patrol made up of the older Eli Whitney boys has been most helpful in controlling the crossing of the main highways by the children going home from school. This is a most serious problem but especially bicycle safety which should receive more attention by parents. Because of the traffic hazards around the schools, especially at noon, children should not be allowed to ride their bicycles to school unless they live at considerable



distance from the buildings. There have been numerous cases of narrow escapes from serious accidents to children riding bicycles to school.

During the past two years the pupils of the Eli Whitney School have earned over \$200 chiefly through the sale of seeds, a large part of which has been expended for special equipment for the school. They have also given generously to the Red Cross and other relief organizations and are to be commended for the fine spirit of thoughtfulness which they have shown so often.

#### RECORDS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

The records made by the graduates of our school in colleges and other schools for specialized training is an important indication of the thoroughness of the training which is given in the high school. It is customary for these schools and colleges to send to the high school copies of the marks attained by their graduates during the first half year of their attendance.

The last scholarship reports received were for the graduates entering various institutions in the fall of 1939. Twenty-four young people, most of them graduates of June 1939, were enrolled as members of the first year classes in sixteen different colleges and schools where they took a total of 150 different subjects. Their marks were distributed as follows:— A, 23 or 15 3-10% ; B, 43 or 28 6-10% ; C, 54 or 36% ; D, 26 or 17 3-10% ; E, 3 or 2% and Fail, 1 or 6-10%. As E in this scale indicates a condition, there was only one actual failure in the one hundred fifty marks reported and this was by a person who graduated three years before.

Only five of these graduates entered institutions of strictly college grade directly from our high school without any additional training. All five graduated with honor records and were admitted to college without any examinations. They received twenty-nine marks distributed as follows: A, 7 or 24% ; B, 11 or 38% ; C, 7 or 24% ; D, 4 or 14%.

These figures show very clearly that our high school gives adequate training for continued study at higher institutions of various types and that honor pupils are fully able to meet the severe standards set by our New England colleges and technical schools.

### HEALTH ACTIVITIES

The plans inaugurated last year as a result of the survey of our health program by officials of the State Board of Health have been successfully continued. The new method for conducting the annual physical examinations has proved especially advantageous. Through the co-operative efforts of Dr. Mahoney, the school physician, Mrs. Schuhmann, the nurse, and the physical instructor, Mr. Fisher and his assistant, Miss Stead, we have a health program which is most beneficial to our boys and girls.

A definite advance step has been taken this year by your committee in establishing the requirement that hereafter all newly appointed teachers must have a thorough chest examination before fully qualifying for their positions. Through the cooperation of Dr. Glidden arrangements have been made to have this done at the county sanatorium without cost. All new teachers employed this year passed these tests before beginning their work in September.

Nutrition is one of the most important factors in a health program and the federal government has sought to encourage interest in it by furnishing some of its surplus commodities for school lunches. For some time we have tried to make arrangements for serving fruits in various forms at noon to the children at the Eli Whitney and Harvey Schools who bring their lunches. Final plans for this service have been completed and it will be started with the opening of the new term. Its extension will depend



on the success of this first venture and the assistance we are able to secure to carry it on.

The plan for conducting our dental clinic has not proved satisfactory chiefly because the local dentists have been unable to give the time required for this service. With their approval plans were made with the cooperation of the Worcester County Extension Service to have this work done by a dentist in their employ. In the spring he came for the first time and conducted the clinic for a week, being on duty during the entire school sessions. In this way much more work was accomplished than ever before and the program has proved so satisfactory that the Child Health Committee voted to continue it. Dr. Merrill came again in the fall and the results obtained were even more gratifying. While this arrangement has greatly improved the conduct of our dental program, as has been stated before, this work should be carried on by employing a school dentist under the direction of the Board of Health.

The service rendered by the school nurse is one of the most important parts of our health program. Her contacts with both school and home make possible the solution of many individual health problems affecting not only school attendance but also the well-being of the children. As in the past Mrs. Schuhmann has carried on her many activities with conscientious efficiency. The following summary indicates the importance of her work:

Home calls (personal visits).....	206
Number of pupils inspected.....	1208
Number immunized against diphtheria.....	76
Pre-school children.....	57
School pupils.....	19
Hospital calls.....	8
Number taken to hospital for tonsil operations .....	14
Assistance at Well Child Clinics.....	10
Dental Clinics.....	23 ½ days
Number pupils having work done.....	222

Number dental certificates awarded.....	162
Contagious diseases.....	78
(measles, 1; mumps, 1; scarlet fever, 3; chicken pox, 73)	

## RECREATION PROGRAM

Through the generosity of Mrs. Florence Ayer the recreation program started last year has been continued with Mr. Willard G. Patton again serving as director. The success of this venture is largely due to his skill and good judgment not only in setting up and conducting an excellent program but also in dealing with the many personalities involved. He has won the respect and confidence of all groups participating in the program and he is deserving of special commendation for the fine service he is rendering our community.

His detailed statement regarding the activities of this new program is included in this report and merits the careful consideration of everyone. The surprisingly large number of participants is evidence that there is a real need for this program. These young people have had enjoyment, physical activity and recreation under wholesome conditions and they have been greatly benefitted thereby.

The question of making this program a permanent responsibility of the community should receive the careful consideration of the citizens. It is too much to expect it to be supported indefinitely with private funds. Many who have been in closest touch with the movement feel that it should receive the financial support of the town because it has proved such an effective center for the recreational activities of so many of our young people. This can be done most economically by continuing the present plan by which it is one of the functions of the School Department and by increasing the annual school appropriation sufficiently to furnish the necessary funds.

## MUSIC AND DRAWING

The interest of our boys and girls in these two subjects and the enjoyment which they receive from them is largely due to the successful manner in which the work is conducted by the two supervisors, Mrs. Andrews and Mrs. Ling.

The following statements are taken from their reports:

The music course is so planned that each year every child is given the working tools necessary for him to make progressive gains in the ability to sing and listen intelligently. The number of children who show no ability to sing even after years of careful teaching is very small.

The elementary grade children have had some experience singing before larger groups through the programs given at Christmas in the high school auditorium and in the town hall just before Memorial Day.

The Girls' Chorus at the high school has had a large and enthusiastic membership. It has provided music for many of the assemblies, gave a special program for the Woman's Club and united with the senior class in preparing music at graduation.

With the resignation of Miss Conlin the high school orchestra was left without a leader and up to the present time no one has been found to take her place. The number of pupils interested in instrumental music is very small but it is hoped that this valuable part of our musical program can be continued in the near future.

In drawing the pupils are allowed and encouraged to branch out in their interpretation of the assignments given by the teacher, thus developing much individuality in the work. There has been considerable correlation of the drawing with the regular class work. Only a very few high school pupils can arrange their schedules to fit the limited number of drawing periods available, hence those with both interest and ability in this subject can obtain

very little training. This is a situation which should be remedied as soon as possible. Three of our recent graduates are studying in art schools of various kinds indicating that this subject has a definite vocational value.

Several fine exhibits have been arranged this year in addition to those of the drawings of our own children. Especially interesting were those from the Providence Central High School, the Arlington High School and the work done by Charles Walkup, Jr., at the Massachusetts School of Art.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Special recognition of American Education Week was again made by arranging exhibits of school work, by inviting visitors and by holding an evening session for conferences of parents and teachers. Many parents came to the schools during the week and the contacts thus established proved mutually helpful. As the same week was also National Book Week the importance of books was emphasized by placing exhibits of textbooks in three store windows and by the presentation of tableaus showing famous book characters as part of a program given by the high school pupils in the auditorium the night of the evening session. These activities gave parents and citizens an opportunity to better understand the school life of our children.

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The fine professional spirit of our teachers has been shown not only by their careful attention to their regular teaching responsibilities but also by their plans for professional improvement. All are members of the Massachusetts Teachers' Federation and a larger number than ever before have joined the National Education Association.

Every teacher in the Eli Whitney School has joined this organization thus making it the only 100% membership school in town.

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The encouragement and financial support given to various school activities by organizations and individuals of our community have been most helpful. Special mention should be made of the assistance given by Mr. and Mrs. Forbes, Dr. and Mrs. Ayer, the Woman's Club, the American Legion, the Kiwanis Club, the Salvation Army and the Child Health Committee. Their cooperation in making possible services not supported directly by the town are very much appreciated.

### CONCLUSION

As you well know, for some time I have been urging that another man be added to our high school faculty in order that our program may be broadened. Last year the salary item in our budget was increased sufficiently to make this possible but the full appropriation which we requested was not granted, hence this step could not be taken. Under present conditions the need is even greater than before because of the demand for more practical training of our high school pupils to meet the present emergency. Only by adding this teacher can we extend the work already being done in the vocational courses which have more direct value to the great majority of our pupils. Again, I earnestly recommend that another male teacher be added to our high school staff.

The plan for raising the age for entrance to Grade 1 is proving very satisfactory and I recommend that this be

extended one more month. This will make the final age requirement 5 years on the January 1st preceeding the opening of school, or 5 years 8 months September 1st.

The progress made during the past year is due to your thoughtful decisions regarding the many important questions which have arisen and to the fine cooperative spirit shown by all members of the department. For these conditions I am personally most appreciative.

Respectfully submitted,

J. HARDING ARMSTRONG.

January 10, 1941.

## Report of School Physician

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The 1940 school medical examinations showed the following results:

Tonsils and adenoids	110
Defective hearts	36
Defective teeth	215
Arches	34
Number examined	785

Some of these heart cases were of the functional type and could be completely repaired if given proper medical attention. Notice cards advising this were sent to the parents of all these cases.

There are still too many children with defective teeth and enlarged tonsils, both of which are capable of causing organic disease in other organs and we strongly advise parents to have these corrected.

DR. WALTER F. MAHONEY,  
School Physician.



## Report Department Physical Education

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Physical Education, due to the conscription and the resultant emphasis on health and well being, will be elevated to a more prominent position in our educational system within the next few years. The attention focused on physical fitness for all branches of the United States service is bound to be reflected in our school health and physical education setup. I look for increased interest, especially by the young men in our public schools and colleges, in all forms of physical education.

The past year has been productive of some very fine athletic programs for both boys and girls in our Westboro schools. With the construction of the asphalt tennis courts on Forbes Field interest and attendance in this activity for the young ladies has doubled. Miss Stead reports that she has found it difficult to schedule the use of the courts due to the increased demand. Many girls now have their own racquets, though this equipment is supplied to all who do not have them. The athletic association provides tennis balls for instruction and play.

Interest in girls basketball has been on the upgrade for some time. Last season Miss Stead had representative teams from all four senior high classes play contests with like teams from Ashland, Framingham and Auburn, while varsity and junior varsity quintets competed with Upton, Shrewsbury and Auburn. Victories over Upton and



Shrewsbury were very pleasant occasions for the maroon clad lassies.

The boys' basketball teams, varsity, junior varsity and freshman, enjoyed very successful seasons. Coach Clyde Riley's Jay Vees won 17 and lost but 2 games, while the varsity won 17 and lost 5. This team entered the Clark Tournament, but was eliminated in the semi-finals by Northbridge High, the finalist.

In other sports football and golf, enthusiasm was high. Football gave us a 7 win, 1 tie and 2 defeat record, while our golf team finished in a tie for 2nd place in the Bay State League with Dedham High. Our baseball season was not as successful as the other sports.

I wish to acknowledge the splendid work of Mr. Alton Bennett, who assisted me in football, and Mr. Clyde Riley and Mr. Albert Doran in basketball. I feel that the school committee made a very wise move in securing the services of additional men teachers capable of handling physical extra-curricular activities with our boys.

My appreciation and thanks to Dr. Mahoney for his care of our football injuries, also to Mr. Robert Johnson, Mr. LeBeau and Mr. Forbush for making the field playable on Thanksgiving Day. Thanks also to Mr. Walter Meigs for his gift of second hand bowling pins, which are used in our recreational program.

In 1927, with the help of boys from our manual training department, I took over and cleaned a basement room in the Eli Whitney school for a small gymnasium. A few pieces of apparatus were constructed and installed. Since that time we have added many features, such as small climbing ropes, horizontal ladders, balance beam, vaulting box, boom, mats, recreation room with games such as teni-quoit, golf putting, paddle badminton, shuffle-board, shuffle-pin, bowling alley, quoits and box hockey. We now have added another interesting piece of equipment,

a climbing peg board. This vertical board, ten inches wide reaches to the ceiling and has two rows of holes eight inches apart. The object of the piece is to have a child climb the board by using two nine inch wooden pegs inserting them one at a time in the alternating holes. At the top of the board is a bell which is to be tapped by the climber when successful in getting to the top.

During vacation the wooden lockers in the Eli Whitney gym were given a coat of aluminum paint and all floor lines touched up. We are planning on installing six new ropes to replace the old ones that have become worn out. Our gymnasium-play room setup is almost complete and has attracted quite a bit of attention. Numerous visits from physical education teachers have been paid. Mr. Ralph Colson, assistant state supervisor of physical education, spent one whole day looking over our work and was so pleased with the novelty of the Eli Whitney gymnasium that he asked me to write up this work in detail for his state publication.

This department has been helped by the construction, through the efforts of Mr. Paul Moran, of a new softball backstop on our high school play area. Also the installation of a new type electric light bulb in the gymnasium has been very beneficial.

I feel that greater efficiency would be obtained in our department if the following suggestions were carried out.

1. Install one set of the new fan type basketball backstops. These are official and all steel.

2. Take down part of the grill in front of the gymnasium bleacher seats.

3. Repair our gymnasium mats.

4. Resurface with asphalt the Eli Whitney yard.

5. Continue the policy of increasing or at least of holding the present staff of men teachers who are capable of teaching physical extra-curricular activities.

6. Repaint the Eli Whitney gym and play room.
7. Replace the guards over the High School gym  
“exit” lights.
8. Add two more sections to the bookcase in my office.

HAROLD L. FISHER.

Director of Physical Education.

## Report of Recreational Director

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Through the fund provided by Mrs. Florence Ayer, the Recreation Division of the School Department has not only served youth from 18 to 25 but has opened its doors on Saturdays to high school pupils during the winter and has provided facilities and supervision for new out of door activities at Forbes Field and the high school grounds.

### INDOOR ACTIVITIES

Since January 1, 1940, the following programs have served approximately the number of different individuals indicated from 18 to 25 years of age or over as actual participants:

Social Hygiene Class	24
Women's Bowling	75
Men's Bowling	130
Women's Swimming	40
Men's Swimming	30
Men's Basketball	100
Women's Basketball	15
Badminton	50
Miscellaneous games (indoor)	150
Woodworking	20
Town Meeting of the Air	20
Art	5
Dances	100

The aggregate participation in indoor activities from Jan. 1, 1940, to Dec. 31, 1940, was 8,474, not including spectators.

Facilities used in the indoor program included the high school gymnasium, shop, special class room, and home economics room, pools at the Worcester Boys' Club and Y. W. C. A., Whitinsville Memorial Gymnasium, and the Lyman School pool and gymnasium, and Meigs Bowling Alleys.

### OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Most of the outdoor activities took place either at Forbes Field or on the high school grounds. Being undermanned, this department could offer only spasmodic teaching of games and tennis. Usually one person was present at Forbes Field throughout the day to rent the tennis courts and equipment, loan equipment for games such as soft-ball, volley ball, horse shoe pitching, deck tennis, tether ball, and darts; giving instruction where possible, but principally providing general supervision to give all ages and groups an equal chance and prevent playing under hazardous conditions to either player or field. First aid was administered in several cases and the director co-operated in the conducting the six team soft ball league.

The Director, Mr. Howard Foster, and Supt. of Highways, Robert Johnson, made a thorough study of tennis court construction and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Forbes and the Trustees of the Community Playground provided the funds for a complete renovation of the tennis courts and putting on a hard surface. In the fall, both boys' and girls' classes for high school students were inaugurated.

Aggregate attendance and participation in activities sponsored or partially supervised by this department at Forbes Field and the high school grounds totalled 11,915.

The approximate number of different out of school individuals participating in activities is as follows:

Tennis	100
Soft-ball	125
Cook-outs	25
Other outdoor games	100
*In school individuals	
Soft-ball	125
Other games	150
Tennis	100

The department has also cooperated with the hockey club.

Total indoor participation	8,474
Total outdoor participation, plus spectators	11,915
	<hr/>
Aggregate for the calendar year	20,389

In addition to the above activities, a library of Recreation Activities has been built by the Director, for which there is an increasing demand. Boy and Girl Scout troops, high school classes, school teachers, church organizations, and people planning parties have been served through the loan of this material.

\*Some conferences in vocational and social adjustments have also been held.

Thus, without the outlay of funds for any new buildings, and their additional maintenance cost, the committee has provided leadership for a wholesome recreation program, at a comparatively low cost to the community. In addition to the fund donated, clerical and some supervisory assistance has been made possible through the cooperation of the National Youth Administration. Most communities recognize their responsibility to provide such programs

and studies have shown that under qualified leadership they have proved definite assets. Among the benefits of such a program may be listed better health (both mental and physical), lowering of youth delinquency tendencies, better social and civic cooperation, and wholesome enjoyment.

WILLARD G. PATTON,  
Recreation Director.



# School Statistics

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## MEMBERSHIP BY GRADES FOR MONTH ENDING

DEC. 31, 1940

### Senior High School

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Seniors .....	23	28	51
Juniors .....	17	38	55
Sophomores .....	38	30	68
Freshmen .....	42	34	76
Post-Graduates .....		1	1
Totals—Senior High.....	120	131	251

### Junior High School

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Grade VIII.....	45	28	73
Grade VII.....	38	30	68
Totals—Junior High.....	83	58	141

### Elementary Schools

	Boys	Girls	Totals
Grade VI.....	42	37	79
Grade V .....	17	43	60
Grade IV.....	35	33	68
Grade III.....	25	38	63
Grade II.....	35	23	58
Grade I.....	37	33	70
Special Class .....	15		15
Totals—Elementary .....	206	207	413
Totals—All Schools.....	409	395	805



## COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP TABLES—ALL SCHOOLS

December 31, 1922.....	750
December 31, 1927.....	841
December 31, 1932.....	852
December 31, 1933.....	851
December 31, 1934.....	861
December 31, 1935.....	867
December 31, 1936.....	841
December 31, 1937.....	852
December 31, 1938.....	836
December 31, 1939.....	814
December 31, 1940.....	805
Decrease from last year.....	9

## CHANGES IN SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP—1923-1940

Senior High School—Increase 155 to 251—96.....	61.9 %
Junior High School—Decrease 145 to 141—4.....	2.7 %
Elementary Schools—Decrease 467 to 413—54.....	11.5 %

## SCHOOL EXPENSES FOR 1940

Salaries for Instruction.....	65.3 %
Transportation .....	8.2 %
Janitors .....	6.3 %
Supt. of Schools, salary and other expenses.....	3.5 %
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses.....	3.4 %
Fuel .....	3.2 %
Stationery and Supplies.....	2.6 %
Repairs .....	1.8 %
Health .....	1.6 %
New Equipment.....	1.5 %
Textbooks .....	1.2 %
School Committee Expenses.....	.4 %
Miscellaneous Expenses.....	.2 %

AGE AND GRADE TABLE. Ages Oct. 1, 1940. Membership, Dec. 31, 1940.

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	PG	SC	T's.
5 years.....	26														26
6 years.....	38	23													61
7 years.....	6	26	23												55
8 years.....		9	30	27	1									1	68
9 years.....			9	36	18									3	66
10 years.....			1	5	33	32								2	73
11 years.....					7	40	17	2						1	67
12 years.....						5	36	19						1	61
13 years.....					1	2	8	35	25					4	75
14 years.....							5	10	40	23	1			1	80
15 years.....							2	3	9	29	21			2	66
16 years.....							4	2	2	13	27	21			67
17 years.....										3	5	26	1		35
18 years.....											1	4			5
	70	58	63	68	60	79	68	73	76	68	55	51	1	15	805
<b>Grade</b>	<b>1</b>														
Normal Age.....	64	49	53	63	51		72	53	54	65	52	48			47
% Normal Age.....	91.4	84.5	84.1	92.6	85		91.1	77.9	74	85.5	76.4	87.2	92.1		
Over Normal Age.....	6	9	10	5	8		7	15	17	11	16	6	4		
% Over Normal Age.....	8.6	15.5	15.9	7.4	13.3		8.9	22.1	23.3	14.5	23.6	10.8	7.9		
Below Normal Age.....					1				2					1	

## DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS BY SUBJECTS

	Fresh.	Soph.	Jr.	Sr.	P.G.	Totals
English	75	66	59	51		251
Foreign Languages:						
Latin	12	5	3	1		21
French	1	36	40	7		84
Sciences:						
General Science	57					57
Chemistry			35	26	1	62
Biology	1	45	4	2		52
Social Science:						
U. S. History			1	48		49
Mod. History		1	43	1		45
Com. Civics	34					34
Ancient History	25		1	4		30
Mathematics.						
Elem. Algebra	32	1	1	3		37
Adv. Algebra				10		10
Plane Geometry		21	3			24
Gen. Mathematics	19			1		20
Solid Geometry			1	3		4
Commercial Subjects:						
Com. Law			14	3		17
Com. Arith.	14	5			1	20
Com. Geog.	1	35		1		37
Bookkeeping		28				28
Typewriting		1	23	19		43
Stenography			15	14		29
Manual Arts:						
Household Arts	18					18
Sewing		10	9	1		20
Manual Training I	13	2		1		16
Mech. Drawing I	13	3	3	5		24
Mech. Drawing II		5	6	6		17
Manual Training II				5		5

## DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS BY COURSES

	Fresh	Soph.	Jr.	Sr.	Totals
College	24	22	15	16	77
General	38	17	25	20	100
Commercial	14	29	15	15	73
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	76	68	55	51	250

## SCHOOL CENSUS—OCT. 1, 1940

Number of boys between the ages of 5 and 7.....	77
Number of girls between the ages of 5 and 7.....	61

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Total.....	138
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Number of boys between the ages of 7 and 16.....	313
Number of girls between the ages of 7 and 16.....	297

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Total.....	610
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Number of boys between the ages of 5 and 16.....	390
Number of girls between the ages of 5 and 16.....	358

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Total.....	748
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## EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES

Number of certificates issued to minors, 14-16.....	2
Number of persons to whom issued.....	2
Number of educational certificates issued.....	99
Total number of all certificates issued.....	101
Total number receiving certificates.....	91

## ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Number of cases of absence investigated.....	41
Number cases of truancy.....	11

# Graduation Class of 1940

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## GRADUATION EXERCISES

### CLASS OF 1940

### WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 13, 1940, AT 8 O'CLOCK

### GRADUATION PROGRAM

Processional—Festival March       -       -       *Mendelssohn*  
HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Invocation       REV. LYNDON S. BEARDSLEE

The Program Theme—Democracy  
JOSEPH ANDERSON HALEY, Class President

The Early Foundations of Democracy  
HARRIET CATHERINE BRUCE

Music—Nightfall In Granada       -       -       -       *Buena*  
SENIOR CLASS AND GIRLS' CHORUS

Latin American Experiments in Democracy  
JOHN HAMLIN BURROUGHS

Violin Solo—Intermezzo       -       -       -       -       *Provost*  
CARL ALBERT GERDEN

Growth of Democracy In Europe Until 1914  
VIVIAN EULALIA SANSOUCY

Democracy In Europe Since 1914

CATHERINE EILEEN GANNON

Baritone Solo—Recessional

NORMAN ELLIOT GEBO

*DeKoven*

Barriers to European Democracy

ALICE BEARDSLEE

The American Dream and the World

CARL ALBERT GERDEN

Presentation of Diplomas

MR. HARRY E. BURROUGHS, School Committee Member

School Song

CLASS OF 1940

Awards—American Legion Medals

D. A. R Good Citizenship Pin

Washington and Franklin History Medal

Woman's Club Scholarship

Teacher's Club Prize

Presentation of Class Gift

JOSEPH ANDERSON HALEY

Music—Dear Land of Home

America Triumphant

*Sibelius*

*Demarest*

SENIOR CLASS AND GIRLS' CHORUS

Baritone Solo

NORMAN GEBO

Recessional—March

HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

### GRADUATES

Nancy Aldrich

Clifton Austin Bayliss

Alice Beardslee

Irene Rose Brown

Harriet Catherine Bruce

Jeannette Madeline Buffington

John Hamlin Burroughs

Audrey Dearing

Chester Lawrence Fenno

James Edward Lindsay

John Joseph Lindsay

Wilbur Delmond MacKay

Donald Herbert McGlory

Marion Ann Nelpi

Nancy Lorraine Nichols

Marilyn Lincoln O'Brien

Mary Winifred Patricia O'Neil

Yvonne Beryl Palmer

Howard Beal Frantz  
 Catherine Eileen Gannon  
 Norman Elliott Gebo  
 Carl Albert Gerden  
 Gladiola Joanna Giefing  
 Mary Estelle Hackett  
 Joseph Anderson Haley  
 Albert Frazier Haworth  
 Ann Hayward  
 John Alfred Heywood  
 Anne Elizabeth Hogan  
 Donald Thomas Hoyle  
 James Jeremiah Keating  
 Helena Bertha Kemp  
 William Arthur Kendrick  
 Charlotte Belle Kimball  
 Helen Virginia Laverdure  
 Frank Leonard Lekberg

Elizabeth Patton  
 Eva Mary Paul  
 Wilfred Donald Penney  
 Shirley Helen Ada Pickering  
 Richard Stanley Piper  
 Robert Harry Piper  
 Sarah Gertrude Russell  
 Vivian Eulalia Sansoucy  
 Helen Mary Sowa  
 Eleanor Lorraine Spear  
 Lorraine Isabelle Temple  
 George Francis Thomas  
 Joan Marie Trank  
 Katherine Marie Wagner  
 Marjorie Arline Watson  
 Raymond Edward Welsh  
 Gordon Alfred Whitney  
 John George Wozny

### *HONOR STUDENTS*

(Those having A or B in at least 12 of the  
 16 units required for graduation)

First Honors—CARL ALBERT GERDEN

Second Honors—HARRIET CATHERINE BRUCE

Third Honors—CATHERINE EILEEN GANNON

Alice Beardslee	Elizabeth Patton
John Hamlin Burroughs	Wilfred Donald Penney
Audrey Dearing	Shirley Helen Ada Pickering
Chester Lawrence Fenno	Vivian Eulalia Sansoucy
Gladiola Joanna Giefing	Eleanor Lorraine Spear
John Alfred Heywood	Joan Marie Trank
Helena Bertha Kemp	Katherine Marie Wagner
Helen Virginia Laverdure	Marjorie Arline Watson

### *CLASS OFFICERS*

JOHN ANDERSON HALEY, President

GLADIOLA JOANNA GIEFING, Vice President

GEORGE FRANCIS THOMAS, Treasurer

MARY WINIFRED PATRICIA O'NEIL, Secretary

# List of Teachers January 1, 1941

Teacher	Position	Education	Home Address
J. Harding Armstrong;	Supt. of Schools and High	School Prin.;	Bridgewater
	Teachers' College, Harvard;	Westboro, Mass.	
Junior-Senior High School:			
Clyde E. Riley;	Science;	Colby College;	Westboro, Mass.
Albert J. Doran, Jr.;	History, Com. Law;	Boston University;	Westboro, Mass.
Pearl K. Gibbs;	French, Com. Geog.;	Mt. Holyoke College;	Westboro, Mass.
Edith C. Wilson;	Comm. subjects, Mod. History;	University of Chicago;	Belfast, Me.
Ruth Wadleigh;	English;	University of New Hampshire;	Millford, N. H.
Ruth Perry;	Mathematics;	Wheaton College;	New Bedford, Mass.
Mary B. Conroy;	English, Latin;	Boston University;	North Brookfield, Mass.
Paul B. Moran;	Man. Tr., Mech. Dr., Civics;	Fitchburg Teachers' College;	Worcester,
Katharine E. Devin;	English, Jr. High;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Westboro.
Ralph M. Clark;	Mathematics, Jr. High;	Trinity College;	Westboro, Mass.
Alton C. Bennett;	Anc. History, Sr. High;	History, Jr. High;	Tufts College; Wake-
	field, Mass.		
M. Elizabeth Kane;	Geography, Drawing, Vocations,	Jr. High;	Worcester Teachers'
	College;	Westboro, Mass.	
Mabel H. Stead;	Physical Training, Typewriting;	Posse Nissen School;	Worcester.
Frances A. Scott;	Special Class;	University of Vermont;	Westboro, Mass.



Teacher	Position	Education	Home Address
Eli Whitney School:			
Sara W. Gibbons;	Prin., Grade 6;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Westboro, Mass.
Lena M. Cummings;	Grade 6;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Westboro, Mass.
Marjorie I. Chamberlain;	Grade 5;	Worcester Teachers' College;	Westboro, Mass.
Martha E. Manahan;	Grade 5;	Lowell Teachers' College;	Methuen, Mass.
Catherine E. Crowe;	Grade 4;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Hopkinton, Mass.
Margaret Gleason;	Grade 4;	Worcester Teachers' College;	Westboro, Mass.
Celia Lawry;	Grade 3;	Farmington, Me., Normal School;	Farmington, Me.
Marjorie E. Knight;	Grade 3;	Fitchburg Teachers' College;	Gardner, Mass.
Harvey School:			
Florence K. Black;	Prin., Grade 1;	Beverly Training School;	Westboro, Mass.
Irene M. Kelleher;	Grade 2;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Northboro, Mass.
Mae J. Chapman;	Grade 2;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Westboro, Mass.
Bertha M. Ainsworth;	Grade 1;	Framingham Teachers' College;	Grafton, Mass.
General:			
Harold F. Fisher;	Physical Director;	Springfield College;	Westboro, Mass.
Frances L. Andrews;	Music Supervisor;	Lowell Normal School;	Westboro, Mass.
Dorothy M. Ling;	Drawing Supervisor;	Providence School of Design;	Providence, R. I.
Helen L. Schuhmann;	School Nurse and Office Asst.;	Newton Hospital;	Westboro.
Dr. Walter F. Mahoney;	School Physician;	Westboro, Mass.	
W. L. Rinehart;	Penmanship Supervisor;	Cambridge, Mass.	
Janitors:			
James H. Higgins;	Eli Whitney and Harvey Building.		
E. Lee Enman;	High School Building.		
Katherine Merchant;	High School Building.		





